

Message Text

SECRET

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TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE
INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 233927 TOSEC 270459

NODIS

FOL TEL SENT ACTION DAR ES SALAAM LUSAKA INFO SECSTATE
FROM GABORONE DTD 21 SEP 1976 QTE

S E C R E T GABORONE 1770

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FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, BC, RH, SA
SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT KHAMA

REF: SECTO 27211

1. TEXT TRANSMITTED REFTEL DELIVERED BY CHARGE' TO PRESIDENT KHAMA
1000 SEPTEMBER 21.

2. PRESIDENT WAS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF THE COMMUNICATION, AND SAID
HE LOOKED FORWARD TO MEETING WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFEELE
NEXT WEEK.

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3. ASKED IF HE HAD ANY SPECIFIC VIEW OR SUGGESTIONS TO COM-

MUNICATE TO THE SECRETARY, PRESIDENT KHAMA REPLIED, "NO, NOT AT THIS TIME; IS SUPPORT ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS WAIT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS".

4. PRESIDENT REFERRED TO PRESS REPORTS THAT SECRETARY MIGHT GO TO KINSHASA, AND ASKED IF SUCH A VISIT WOULD BE RELATED TO THE ONGOING INITIATIVES OR WOULD DEAL WITH US/ZAIRE BILATERAL ISSUES ONLY. CHARGE, FINESSED THIS, SAYING HE HAD ONLY SEE EXCERPT OF THE SEPT. 17 PRESS CONFERENCE, AND WAS UNAWARE OF SECRETARY'S SPECIFIC PLANS. PRESIDENT NOTED WITH AMUSEMENT THAT PRESIDENT MOBUTU HAD ORALLY PROMISED TO COME FOR BOTSWANA'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS, AND THAT THE OPPOSITION HERE HAD EXPRESSED OPPOSITION TO SUCH VISIT, CHARACTERIZING MOBUTU AS "CIA AGENT".

5. PRESIDENT ALSO WONDERED AROUND WHETHER IF INDEED SMITH HAD BEEN WON OVER TO SUPPORT (OR AT LEAST ACCEPT) MAJORITY RULE, THEN WHAT MEANS HAD BEEN EMPLOYED TO PERSUADE, PRESSURE OR EVEN THREATEN HIM INTO THIS POSITION. HE SEEMED TO THINK THAT SOME AT LEAST IMPLIED THREAT MUST HAVE BEEN SUED ON SMITH AS HE DID NOT APPEAR TO BE A MAN EASILY PERSUADED BY OTHER MEANS. TURNING TO THE SUBJECT OF VORSTER'S APPARENT COOPERATION, HE ALSO POINTEDLY ASKED IF THE PRICE OF GOLD ON THE WORLD MARKET HAD INCREASED, AND MUSED THAT THE SAG MUST CERTAINLY BE AWARE OF USG'S POTENTIAL ABILITY TO DEPRESS GOLD PRICES AT LEAST TEMPORARILY BY SELLING OFF LARGE QUANTITIES OF ITS GOLD RESERVES. THE THOUGHT BEHIND HIS REMARKS WAS OBVIOUS.

ALBERTI
UNQTE ROBINSON

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